THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" *Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice.*

No. 153. *Monday, May* 13, 1822. *Price* 1*d.*

COVENT GARDEN.

On Saturday night, a new Play, interspersed with music, was brought out, under the title of *The Law of Java.*

It is said to be written by Mr. Colman; and, if so, we can only hold up our hands, and turn up our eyes, that the author of *Inkle and Yarico, The Heir at Law, The Poor Gentleman, &c. &c.* could have been permitted by his friends to obscure his fame by this glimmering of wasted genius. The construction of the whole piece is weak; the dialogue is without uniform pathos in the serious parts, and without wit or pointed humor in the lighter ones: the *interest* closes before the termination of the first act; and the *action* of the evident, preconceived, main business, is hung up by scenes of the most uninteresting, common-place, heavy nature.

The Songs given to Miss Tree are most soporific; but Miss Stephens has two lively ones which were encored. The audience laughed at the character of a *Tourist* in Liston's comical keeping, an idea torn out of "My Pocket-book," and they were very grave at all the rest: but although there was some disapprobation at the close, the applauders carried it.

The following is a detail of the Plot:

The Piece opens with a chorus of soldiers in a Factory of the Dutch East India Company at *Java. Major Van Glozen*, the commandant, appears in expectation of the arrival from Holland of a nephew, *Hans Gayvelt*, who has been educated at the Major's expense, and is to be placed as a cadet in the garrison. A letter is received by the Major announcing the young gentleman's approach, and that he has sent forward his servant *Pengoose*, an Englishman, an honest fellow, but rather too fond of *journalising* all he sees and hears. *Pengoose* is introduced, memorandum-book in hand, noting the surrounding novelties. The Major places him on the muster-roll, which *Mr. Pengoose* does not fail to note in his book, together with the temper and personal appearance of the Major, not forgetting to state that the natives build their houses of bamboo, and *queries*—" Whether bamboo is not *young mahogany*?" Young *Gayvelt* at length arrives, and his uncle is delighted to find him such a fine dashing fellow. The news at home, of course, is desired by the Major, and amongst other questions he enquires how his wife is, whom he left in Amsterdam. Gayvelt appears disconcerted, and looks very melancholy, but at last in the most feeling manner breaks the sad intelligence that Mrs. Van Glozen is no more. The Major, it might be supposed, on hearing this sad news, would be overpowered with grief, and fall senseless into his nephew's arms—but not a feature is changed, not a sigh escapes from his phlegmatic bosom, and all he utters with a tone of happy indifference is—" Dear me!"

The House was crowded.

(To be continued to-morrow.)

DRURY LANE.

Guy Mannering was performed for the second time. Mr. Braham as *Henry Bertram*, gave his songs with fine effect. Mr. Cooper as *Petruchio*, in the after-piece, received great applause: as did Mrs. Glover in the part of *Katherine.*—The House was pretty well attended.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed, 2nd time, a Play, in 3 acts (interspersed with music) called

The Law of Java.

With entirely New Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, and Decorations.

The Overture, and Music, composed by Mr. Bishop.

Emperor of Java, Mr. ABBOTT,
Agib, Captain of the Prisons, Mr. DURUSET,
Grumbick, Under Jailer, Mr. ATKINS,
Bafpa, Cojo | Eunuchs of the Haram | Mr. J. ISAACS, Mr. BARNES,
Parbaya, a native of Macassar, Mr. YOUNG,
Orzinga, a Mahometan Priest, Mr. YATES,
Abdallah, (his attendant) Mr. JEFFERIES,
Major Van Glozen, (Commandant of Troops in the service of the Dutch East India Company, Mr. FAWCETT,
Hans Gayvelt, Van Glozen's Nephew, and a Cadet, Mr. JONES,
Snickersnee, a Serjeant in the Dutch Service, Mr Comer,
Pengoose, English Servant to Hans Gayvelt, Mr. LISTON.
Zaide, Nourjadhee, | Females of the Haram, | Miss M. TREE, Miss STEPHENS,

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After which, a New Grand Melo-Drama, called

Cherry & Fair Star.

Cherry, Mrs. VINING,
Sanguinbeck, (Captain of a Greek Vessel) Mr. FARLEY,
Topack, (his Slave) Mr. GRIMALDI,
Hassanbad, (a Native of Tenedos) Mr. BLANCHARD,
Sigismund, (Emperor of Cyrus) Mr. COLLETT,
Prince Demetrius, Mr. SMITHSON, Giaffier, Mr. CHAPMAN,
Zaib and Norab, Messrs. Heath and Smith.
Noureddin, Mr. Horrebow, Captain of the Port of Cyprus, Mr. Isaacs.
Hunters, Mr. Pyne, Mr. Comer, Mr. J. Isaacs,
Fair Star, Miss FOOTE,
Aviaryana, (Queen of the Faries) Miss BEAUMONT,
Papillo, (an Ariel Sprite) Miss E. DENNETT.
Fairy Spirits of Aviaryana, Misses Barnett, Bennett, Bodens, &c.
Ladies of Cyprus, Mesdms. Chipp, Louis, Twamley, Vedy, &c.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane,

This Evening will be performed the Tragedy of

HAMLET.

Claudius, King of Denmark, Mr. POWELL,
Laertes, Mr. BARNARD,
Rosencrantz, Mr. WEBSTER, Priest, Mr. FOOTE,
Hamlet, Mr. KEAN.
Horatio, Mr. PENLEY,
Osrick, Mr. FITZWILLIAM,
Polonius, Mr. MUNDEN,
Guildenstern, Mr VINING,
Marcellus, Mr. WILLMOTT, Francisco, Mr. SMITH,
Bernardo, Mr. HOWELL,
Actors, Messrs. Bromley, and W. H. Williams,
1st. Grave-digger, Mr. Harley,
Second Grave-digger, Mr. Hughes,
First Sailor, Mr. Read, Second Sailor, Mr. Seymour
Ghost of Hamlet's Father, Mr. COOPER.
Ophelia, (first time) Miss P. GLOVER,
Gertrude, Queen of Denmark, Mrs. GLOVER,
Actress Miss PHILLIPS.

After which, the Musical Extravaganza of

Giovanni in London.

Don Giovanni, Madame VESTRIS
Leporello, Mr. HARLEY, Mr. Florentine Finickin Mr. BARNARD
Mr. Deputy English, Mr. GATTIE, Pluto, Mr. MEREDITH,
Mercury, Mr. HOWLL, Charon, Mr. SMITH,
Firedrake, Mr. RANDALL, Drainemdry, Mr. WILLMOTT,
Porous, Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS, Simpkins, Mr. TURNOUR,
Popinjay, Mr. VINING, Shirk, Mr. HUGHES, Nokes, Mr SMITH.
Proserpine, Miss COOPER, Mrs. Leporello, Miss CUBITT,
Miss Constantia Quixotte, Miss POVEY, Mrs, English, Mrs. ORGER,
Succubus, Miss VALANCY, Tartarus, Mrs. BEST.
Mrs. Drainemdry, Mrs. HARLOWE, Mrs. Porous, Mss PHILLIPS,
Mrs. Simpkins, Mrs. MARGERUM, Squalling Fan, Mrs. BLAND,
In Act I. a Pas Seul by Miss TREE.

To-morrow, Love in a Village.

English Opera House, Strand.

Mr. Mathews at Home.

This present Evening he will give his course of Lectures, on Character, Manners, and Peculiarities,

WITH ENTIRELY NEW ENTERTAINMENTS,

Under the Title of

The Youthful Days of Mr. Mathews

Part I.—From *nothing* to the age of *an hour and a quarter* –" First the infant, &c.—Parentage, childhood—From *One to Ten*---" Then the schoolboy with shining morning face :- Preparatory seminary---Merchant Tailors' school---Public speeches---Latin, Greek, and English

Song—" *SCHOOL ORATORS.*"

From *Ten to Fifteen*--Bound apprentice--WILKES Chamberlain of London—Dramatic mania of Master Charles Mathews---First attempt as an actor in public—Fencing—Interview with Macklin—The veteran's opinion of the qualifications of a Tragedian—Elopement from home—Fat traveller—Ap Llwyd, Esq.—Mineral waters—Stratford upon Avon—Shakspeare's Tomb—

Song—" *MARKET DAY.*"

Engaged for the Dublin Theatre.—

Careful carter—Ingenious porter—First appearance in Ireland—Splendid Wardrobe—Mr. Mathews ruffled—Old Hurst—Cox's Bull—Dicky Snett's Letter of recommendation—Hibernian friends—

Song---" *An IRISH RUBBER at WHIST.*"

Part II.---Dublin Company—George Augustus Fipley, or the line of beauty—Mr Trombone---O'Flanagan.—*Port arms*—

Song---" *Volunteer Field-Day and Sham-Fight.*"

Mr. Curran (*a portrait*)—Leave Dublin...Real Irish Ballad

" *CROOSKEEN LAWN.*"

How to drive a Pig—Leave Ireland—Visit Wales...Mr. Mathews engaged for the York circuit...Interview with Tate Wilkinson, Esq. the wandering patentee...Buckle brushing, (Garrick's buckles.) Tate's antipathies...Rats—Johnny Winter...

" *A Tailor's Measure of Shakespear.*"

Cross letters..York Roscius Overture from London...Mr. Mark Magnum..." All that sort of thing," and " every thing in the world" .....Arrival in the metropolis.

Finale—" *A Musical Good Bye at York.*

PART III. **STORIES:**

In which Mr. Mathews will take *Steps* to introduce the following Characters :

NAT.—Servant of all-work in a Lodging house.
SIR SHIVERUM SCREWNERVE—Guardian to Amelrosa--*second floor*
MONSIEUR ZEPHYR—French Ballet Master—(*first floor.*)
GEORGE AUGUSTUS FIPLEY—" A line of beauty"—in love.
AB LLEWELLYN AB-LLWYD, Esq.—*not* thin enough.
Mr. MARK MAGNUM—*non compos* lodger—next door.
MISS AMELROSA—in love with Fipley.

Mr. E. KNIGHT will preside at the Piano-Forte.

Boxes 5*s*. *Pit* 3*s*. *Lower Gal.* 2*s*. *Upper Gal.* 1*s*....*Begins at* 8.

E. Thomas, Printer, Denmark Court, Strand.